

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

Please amend the claims as follows. This listing of claims shall replace all prior versions and listings of the claims.

1. Cancelled.

2. (Currently Amended) A method comprising:

receiving, from a remote device, an offer to enter into an agreement during a present time to purchase or sell a vehicle at a designated future date of delivery of the vehicle, the offer defining a first parameter comprising at least one of: a year of the vehicle, a manufacturer of the vehicle and a model of the vehicle;

generating, using a computing device, a futures contract for the vehicle based on the offer, in which the futures contract comprises delivery conditions governing the delivery of the vehicle on the designated future date, and in which the computing device is in communication with the remote device via a network;

storing the futures contract in a database;

receiving, by the computing device ~~from the remote device~~, a query comprising a second parameter, the second parameter comprising at least one of: a year of a vehicle, a manufacturer of a vehicle and a model of a vehicle;

determining, using the computing device, that at least one first parameter of each of a plurality of futures contracts matches the second parameter of the query;

transmitting the plurality of futures contracts in response to the query;

receiving a request to select a futures contract from the plurality of transmitted futures contracts;

outputting to a display device information concerning the delivery conditions of the selected futures contract;

after outputting information concerning the delivery conditions, generating an agreement to exchange ownership of the vehicle at the designated future date in accordance with the selected futures contract, in which the agreement comprises the delivery conditions; and

delivering the vehicle, in accordance with the agreement and the delivery conditions, on the future date.

3. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 2, in which the first parameter and second parameter comprise at least one of:
 - (1) a category field,
 - (2) a vehicle details field,
 - (3) a futures contract period field, and
 - (4) a search query field.
4. Cancelled.
5. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 2, in which the first parameter and the second parameter comprise at least one of:
 - a definition for the vehicle,
 - a price for the vehicle, and
 - specifications for the vehicle.
6. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 2, in which the first parameter and the second parameter comprise at least one of:
 - a transfer of ownership date; and
 - an expiration date.
7. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 2, in which the first parameter and the second parameter comprise:
 - a first date at which ownership of the vehicle is available for transfer,
 - a second date at which ownership of the vehicle expires, and
 - a value of the vehicle at the second date.

8. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 2, in which the first parameter and the second parameter comprise:

a date at which the selected futures contract expires.

9-37. Cancelled.

38. (Previously Presented) An apparatus comprising:

a processor; and

a memory, in which the memory stores instructions which, when executed by the processor, direct the processor to perform the method of claim 2.

39. (Previously Presented) The apparatus of claim 38, in which the memory stores instructions which, when executed by the processor, direct the processor to perform the method of claim 3.

40. Cancelled.

41. (Previously Presented) The apparatus of claim 38, in which the memory stores instructions which, when executed by the processor, direct the processor to perform the method of claim 5.

42. (Previously Presented) The apparatus of claim 38, in which the memory stores instructions which, when executed by the processor, direct the processor to perform the method of claim 6.

43. (Previously Presented) The apparatus of claim 38, in which the memory stores instructions which, when executed by the processor, direct the processor to perform the method of claim 7.

44. (Previously Presented) The apparatus of claim 38, in which the memory stores instructions which, when executed by the processor, direct the processor to perform the method of claim 8.

45-73. Cancelled.

74. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 2 further comprising:
receiving the first parameter and the second parameter through a trading interface,
in which the trading interface comprises:
a form element for a user to specify the first parameter and the second parameter;
and
a button selectable by the user in order to submit the first parameter and the second parameter.

75. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 2 further comprising:
receiving an acceptance of the agreement.

76-79. Cancelled.

80. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 2, in which the transaction comprises
purchasing and selling the vehicle at the future date.

81. Cancelled.

82. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 2 further comprising:
searching the database for a futures contract, in which the at least one futures contract comprises at least one first parameter that matches the second parameter of the query.

83. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 2 further comprising:

listing a futures contract, in which the futures contract comprises at least one first parameter that matches the second parameter of the query.

84. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 2, further comprising:

receiving a request for information associated with at least one of the plurality of transmitted futures contracts; and
transmitting the information.

85. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 2, further comprising:

receiving a request to compare at least two of the plurality of transmitted futures contracts; and
comparing the at least two of the plurality of transmitted futures contracts.

86. (Previously Presented) The apparatus of claim 38, in which the memory stores instructions which, when executed by the processor, direct the processor to perform the method of claim 74.

87. (Previously Presented) The apparatus of claim 38, in which the memory stores instructions which, when executed by the processor, direct the processor to perform the method of claim 75.

88-91. Cancelled.

92. (Previously Presented) The apparatus of claim 38, in which the memory stores instructions which, when executed by the processor, direct the processor to perform the method of claim 80.

93. Cancelled.

94. (Previously Presented) The apparatus of claim 38, in which the memory stores instructions which, when executed by the processor, direct the processor to perform the method of claim 82.

95. (Previously Presented) The apparatus of claim 38 , in which the memory stores instructions which, when executed by the processor, direct the processor to perform the method of claim 83.

96. (Previously Presented) The apparatus of claim 38, in which the memory stores instructions which, when executed by the processor, direct the processor to perform the method of claim 84.

97. (Previously Presented) The apparatus of claim 38, in which the memory stores instructions which, when executed by the processor, direct the processor to perform the method of claim 85.

98. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 2, in which the vehicle comprises at least one of:

an automobile, a water craft and an aircraft.

99. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 2, in which the first parameter comprises at least two of:

a category of the vehicle, a name of the vehicle, a description of the vehicle, a first date at which ownership of the vehicle is available for transfer, a second date at which the futures contract expires, a price of the vehicle that is designated by a seller of the vehicle, and a value of the vehicle at the second date.

100. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 2 further comprising:

generating a value of the vehicle at a date at which ownership of the vehicle is available.

101. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 100, in which generating the value of the vehicle further comprises:

evaluating a plurality of factors, in which the plurality of factors comprises:

- a demand for the vehicle,
- an availability of the vehicle in a marketplace,
- a category of the vehicle, a type of the durable good,
- an age of the vehicle and
- a condition of the vehicle.

102. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 2, further comprising:

transmitting a plurality of terms associated with an execution of the agreement.

103. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 102, in which the plurality of terms comprises:

- a period of the agreement,
- a method of payment,
- a method of delivery,
- an amount of ~~liquidity~~ liquidated damages resulting from a breach of the agreement, and
- a fee associated with the amount of ~~liquidity~~ liquidated damages.

104. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 102 further comprising:

- receiving an acceptance of the plurality of terms; and
- receiving an acceptance of the agreement.

105. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 2, in which the agreement comprises

an exchange of ownership in the vehicle for a price, in which the vehicle is associated with the selected futures contract.

106. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 2 further comprising:
delivering the vehicle at the future date, in which the vehicle is associated with the selected futures contract.

107. (Previously Presented) The apparatus of claim 38, in which the memory stores instructions which, when executed by the processor, direct the processor to perform the method of claim 98.

108. (Previously Presented) The apparatus of claim 38, in which the memory stores instructions which, when executed by the processor, direct the processor to perform the method of claim 99.

109. (Previously Presented) The apparatus of claim 38, in which the memory stores instructions which, when executed by the processor, direct the processor to perform the method of claim 100.

110. (Previously Presented) The apparatus of claim 109, in which the memory stores instructions which, when executed by the processor, direct the processor to perform the method of claim 101.

111. (Previously Presented) The apparatus of claim 38, in which the memory stores instructions which, when executed by the processor, direct the processor to perform the method of claim 102.

112. (Previously Presented) The apparatus of claim 111, in which the memory stores instructions which, when executed by the processor, direct the processor to perform the method of claim 103.

113. (Previously Presented) The apparatus of claim 111, in which the memory stores instructions which, when executed by the processor, direct the processor to perform the method of claim 104.

114. (Previously Presented) The apparatus of claim 38, in which the memory stores instructions which, when executed by the processor, direct the processor to perform the method of claim 105.

115. (Previously Presented) The apparatus of claim 38, in which the memory stores instructions which, when executed by the processor, direct the processor to perform the method of claim 106.

116. (Previously Presented) An article of manufacture comprising:
a storage medium, in which the storage medium stores instructions which, when executed by a processor, direct the processor to perform the method of claims 2.

117. (Previously Presented) The article of manufacture of claim 116, in which the storage medium stores instructions which, when executed by the processor, direct the processor to perform the method of claim 74.

118. (Previously Presented) The article of manufacture of claim 116, in which the storage medium stores instructions which, when executed by the processor, direct the processor to perform the method of claim 75.

119. (Previously Presented) The article of manufacture of claim 116, in which the storage medium stores instructions which, when executed by the processor, direct the processor to perform the method of claim 80.

120. (Previously Presented) The article of manufacture of claim 116, in which the storage medium stores instructions which, when executed by the processor, direct the processor to perform the method of claim 82.

121. (Previously Presented) The article of manufacture of claim 116, in which the storage medium stores instructions which, when executed by the processor, direct the processor to perform the method of claim 83.

122. (Previously Presented) The article of manufacture of claim 116, in which the storage medium stores instructions which, when executed by the processor, direct the processor to perform the method of claim 84.

123. (Previously Presented) The article of manufacture of claim 116, in which the storage medium stores instructions which, when executed by the processor, direct the processor to perform the method of claim 85.

124. (Previously Presented) The article of manufacture of claim 116, in which the storage medium stores instructions which, when executed by the processor, direct the processor to perform the method of claim 98.

125-126. (Cancelled)

127. (Previously Presented) The article of manufacture of claim 126, in which the storage medium stores instructions which, when executed by the processor, direct the processor to perform the method of claim 101.

128. (Previously Presented) The article of manufacture of claim 116, in which the storage medium stores instructions which, when executed by the processor, direct the processor to perform the method of claim 102.

129. (Previously Presented) The article of manufacture of claim 128, in which the storage medium stores instructions which, when executed by the processor, direct the processor to perform the method of claim 103.

130. (Previously Presented) The article of manufacture of claim 128, in which the storage medium stores instructions which, when executed by the processor, direct the processor to perform the method of claim 104.

131-132. (Cancelled)

133. (Previously Presented) A method comprising:

- submitting using a remote device a request comprising a first parameter associated with the transaction of a vehicle at a time designated in the future;

- receiving from a computing device a plurality of futures contracts in response to the request, in which each futures contract comprises a second parameter that matches with the first parameter, in which the computing device is in communication with the remote device via a network;

- selecting from the plurality of received futures contracts a futures contract associated with an offer to enter into an agreement during a present time to purchase or sell a vehicle at a designated future date of delivery of the vehicle;

- receiving from a computing device an agreement to exchange ownership in the vehicle at the future date, in which the agreement is generated from the selected futures contract; and

- receiving the vehicle, in accordance to the agreement, on the future date.

134. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 133, in which the transaction comprises one of purchasing and selling the vehicle at the future date.

135. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 133, in which the vehicle comprises at least one of: an automobile, a water craft and an aircraft.

136. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 133, in which one of the first parameter and the second parameter comprises at least one of:

a category of the vehicle, a name of the vehicle, a description of the vehicle, a first date at which ownership of the vehicle is available, a second date at which ownership of the vehicle expires, and an estimation of a value of the vehicle at the second date.

137. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 133 further comprising:

receiving a plurality of terms associated with executing the agreement;
transmitting an acceptance of the plurality of terms; and
transmitting an acceptance of the agreement.

138. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 133 further comprising:

transmitting a request for information associated with at least one of the plurality of transmitted futures contracts; and
receiving the information.

139. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 133 further comprising:

transmitting a request to compare at least two of the plurality of transmitted futures contracts; and
receiving a comparison of the at least two of the plurality of transmitted futures contracts.

140. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 133 further comprising:

receiving the vehicle at the future date, in which the vehicle is associated with the selected futures contract.

141. (New) The method of claim 2, further comprising receiving by the computing device an acceptance of the futures contract, in which the act of generating the agreement

comprises generating the agreement based on receiving the acceptance of the futures contract.

142. (New) The method of claim 2, in which the delivery conditions comprise acceptable conditions of the vehicle upon expiration of the futures contract.

143. (New) The method of claim 2, in which the futures contract specifies liquidated damages resulting from a breach of contract, further comprising outputting to the display device information about the liquidated damages.

144. (New) The method of claim 2, in which the futures contract specifies penalty fees corresponding to liquidated damages information, further comprising outputting to the display device information about the penalty fees.